

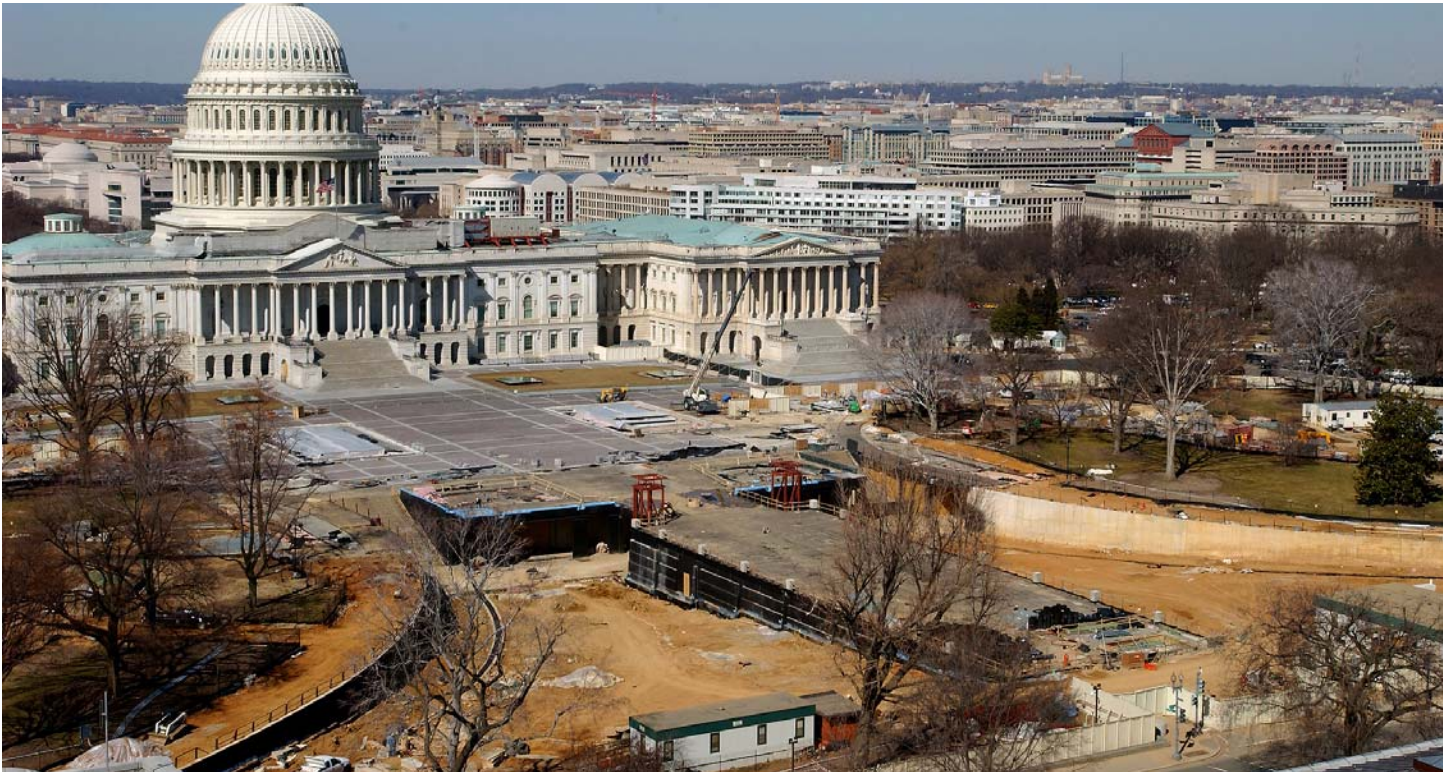


# United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

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A view of the East Front Plaza, as seen from the Library of Congress dome last week, shows the CVC entrance zones (foreground), which gently slope down 18 feet from First Street NE/SE. The red steel structures for two elevator towers can be seen in the center of the photo. Over the next few months, crews will be assembling formwork and placing concrete for the pedestrian ramps and stepped walkways that lead to the CVC entrances.

## **This Week – Ongoing Work – 3/21/05 through 3/25/05**

### **CVC and East Front Plaza:**

- Fireproofing continues on all three levels inside the CVC, and within the Congressional Auditorium.
- Workers continue to install mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, erect interior masonry block work, and install marble and sandstone on the lower level. More stone masons will be added to the work crew by the end of the week.
- All four skylights near the face of the Capitol have been installed.
- Crews continue to backfill soil in the eastern half of the site to achieve the final slope for the CVC entrance zones. Installation of additional drainage elements and structural foundation work will begin in April to prepare the entrance zone for the pedestrian ramps and stepped paths that slope down to the CVC entrances from First Street NE/SE.
- Stone masons will begin installing curb stones around the House and Senate eggs and across the center of the Plaza near the monumental stairs at the CVC entrances.

### **East Front Extension**

- Crews will continue installing mechanical systems related to the elevators on the south side of this zone.

### **East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel**

- Steel support piles are in place and excavation is ongoing. Most of the excavation is half-way down to its final depth of 20 feet, and within two feet of the bottom in some locations. Pre-case concrete tunnel sections may arrive in early May.



In the lower level of the CVC, a worker sets one of the 750,000 masonry blocks that will help define the interiors spaces within the CVC.





A stone mason installs sandstone blocks along one of the corridor walls near the CVC food service area on the lower level.

### **Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel**

- All structural work for the tunnel is complete. Utility work and interior plaster and stonework will begin later this spring.
- The connection to the Library of Congress building interior will be completed through a separate contract to be executed later in 2005.

## **Next Week – 3/28/04 – 4/01/05**

### **CVC and East Front Plaza Work**

- Workers will continue placing the granite curb stones on the East Plaza in the eastern have of the CVC site.
- Crews will continue to fireproof steel elements, install utilities, build mechanical spaces, place concrete, erect blockwork, install finish stone, and prepare the CVC entrance zones for the construction of paths and steps.
- A crew may need to continue installation of the smaller skylight near the face of the Capitol on the south side.
- Installation of new air handling units will continue.

### **East Front Extension**

- Some minor demolition activities may occur.
- Fireproofing of steel elements is expected to begin in this zone.
- Crews will continue to install mechanical systems and utilities, and continue elevator work.

### **East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel**

- Excavation of the utility trench will continue. Lagging (wood planks) will be inserted between steel piles that, together, will support the trench as excavation continues to a depth of 20 feet.



Workers have completed the installation of glass panes for the last of four skylights that lie along the East face of the Capitol.

*If you have any questions about the Capitol Visitor Center Project, please contact Tom Fontana, CVC project communications officer, at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at [tfontana@aac.gov](mailto:tfontana@aac.gov). You can read this document and previous editions on the CVC web site at [www.aac.gov](http://www.aac.gov).*